Pathankot (District Gurdaspur). All these five growth centres have become functioning as allotment of industrial plots has commenced in these Growth Centres.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Benefits under WTO Agreements

945. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the stated position of India in regard to WTO agreements entered so far;

(b) the details of benefits these agreements have brought to India in terms of greater export market access in the developed west particularly in Textiles, agriculture exports;

(c) whether it is a fact that WTO regime is not enthusiastic about cross border movement of labour which is not only India's key concern but considered component of trade in services; and

(d) if so, whether Indian delegation attending WTO Conference at Doha recently expressed our concern on such matters?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDI): (a) India is founding member of WTO and strongly favours the strengthening of the rule-based multilateral trading system of the WTO which came into existence in 1995. However, in the course of implementation of WTO Agreements over the last 6 years, there is clear perception of 'development deficit'. The inherent imbalances in the WTO agreements, the non-operationalisation of the Special and Differential Treatment Clauses in favour of developing countries and the lack of sincere implementation of their obligation by developed countries are apparent. India along with other like minded Member countries have highlighted these "implementation related issued concerns" in WTO.

(b) WTO provides a predictable non-discriminatory rule based multilateral trading system. By virtue of being a member of WTO, India is automatically entitled to get Most Favoured Nation (MFN) and National Treatment from all other members, for its exports. Specifically, the Agreement on Agriculture (AoA) mandates disciplines on market access, domestic supports and export subsidies. As per WTO statistics India's share in world exports of agriculture commodities, which stood at 1.3% for the period 1991—94, increased to 1.9% for the year 1998. In the context of textiles, the provisions of the Agreement on Textiles and Clothing (ATC) mandate eventual integration into GATT of Trade in the area of Textiles and Clothing by 2005, after which the multilateral trading rules of GATT/WTO would be applicable. The integration is being carried out in four stages over the 10 (ten)-year transition period. So far, various countries have integrated into GATT 1994 Textiles and Clothing Products, which accounted for not less than 33% of the total volume of country's 1990 imports of the products in this area. In accordance with the provisions of ATC, WTO members countries have also notified their schedule for integrating the further 18% of the total volume of 1990 import of the products in this area, to be effective

• from January 2002. The process of integration into GATT 1994 of trade in this area have so far not resulted in any meaningful removal of quotas in respect of developing countries as the integration process is backloaded and restraining members have chosen to integrate mainly those products which are not under quota. Indian exports in textiles and clothing sectors increased from Rs. 285203 million in 1995-96 to Rs. 552424 million in 2000-01.

(c) The General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS) under WTO envisages four modes of delivery of Services. Modc-4 relates to cross border movement of natural persons. There is considerable asymmetry in the commitments between different modes of delivery in services with minimum level commitments having been taken by developed countries in mode 4 which is of primary interest to India and other developing countries. India has already submitted a proposal on the liberalisation of movement of professionals in the special sessions of the Council for Trade in Services (CTS). The Fourth

Ministerial Conference of WTO held recently at Doha from 9th—14th November 2001 recognise the proposals relating to the movement of natural persons among various others in the context of the on-going negotiations on trade in services.

(d) The Indian delegation at the Doha Conference expressed its concerns on various issues including agriculture, textiles and services. On the agricultural negotiations, India called for elimination of large-scale domestic support and trade distorting subsidies by developed countries and removal of all unfair barriers to farm exports from developing countries. At the same time, India stressed that our concerns relating to food and livelihood security and rural development are adequately taken care of. Similarly in services, it was pointed out that facilitating the movement of professionals must receive priority attention. India also exhorted the WTO membership at Doha to make sincere efforts in resolving the outstanding implementation related issues and concerns or giving clear directions on how to deal with them.

Creation of Food Security Box

946. SHRI CM. IBRAHIM: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the response of the WTO to Government's demand for creation of a "Food Security Box*' under the Agreement on Agriculture, for food security and livelihood concerns of developing countries;

(b) WTO's response to the Government's demand for sufficient flexibility for domestic policy measures by the developing nations; and

(c) whether Government have considered the need for protecting and promoting the interests and rights of the women under WTO regime especially the lower strata particularly in rural areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDI): (a) and (b) India in its proposals submitted to the WTO for the ongoing negotiations under the Agreement on Agriculture, has demanded creation of a "Food Security Box" so as to take care of its